

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

CHAPTER 61

Statutory Authority: S.C. Code Section 48-1- 10 et seq.

Notice of Drafting:

The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (Department) proposes to amend R.61-69, Classified Waters. Interested persons are invited to submit their views and recommendations in writing to Gina L. Kirkland, Water Quality Standards Coordinator, Bureau of Water, 2600 Bull Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201. To be considered, written comments must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 25, 2011, the close of the drafting comment period.

Synopsis:

The Department proposes to reclassify Reedy Cove Creek and Lake Chillywater from the current classification of Freshwaters (FW) to Outstanding Resource Waters (ORWs).

Reedy Cove Creek is a small tributary to Eastatoe Creek in Pickens County and was considered by the Department for ORW classification during an earlier evaluation conducted by the Department and the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (DNR) of the waters located in the upstate of South Carolina. At that time in the mid 1990s, there was an existing NPDES discharge located at Camp McCall on Lake Chillywater. Reedy Cove Creek and Lake Chillywater, the small lake located in the middle of Reedy Cove Creek, were excluded in the reclassification due to this existing discharge. During the evaluation, it was determined that Reedy Cove Creek was an excellent candidate for ORW classification due to its significance as sensitive habitat area for several South Carolina threatened species. The NPDES discharge was recently eliminated and the Department believes these waters to be exceptional resource waters of the State and we are now considering naming Reedy Cove Creek, including its headwaters and Lake Chillywater, as ORWs of the State.

Legislative review will be required.